Manipulation of Rail Accident Statistics

373. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board has noted that one factor bedevilling the safety performance of the Railways has been the wide-spread manipulation of accident statistics;

(b) if so, the facts and figures on the basis of which the Railway Board has come to this conclusion and how far manipulation of accident statistics affected the safety performance; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to rectify the system and to bring about a reliable safety environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no manipulation of Railway accident statistics. Various types of accidents are reported to different levels depending on their seriousness. Yard derailments etc. are reported only upto the level of Divisions. Smaller accidents not having serious repercussions are reported only upto the level of Zonal Railways. Only 'Consequential Train Accidents' which include collisions, derailment, level crossing accidents and fire cases having serious repercussions are reported to Railway Board. Thus, it is a matter of reporting at different levels for different accidents depending on their seriousness.

Demand and supply of Oilzapper

374. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present demand and supply position of Oilzapper in the country;